



**October 24-30 is Respiratory Care Week and October 27 is Lung Health Day.** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is asking the provider community to keep their patients with Medicare healthy by encouraging eligible patients to take advantage of Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services.

Medicare provides coverage of two smoking cessation attempts per year for qualified patients. Each attempt may include a maximum of four counseling sessions.

### **What Can You Do?**

As a health care professional who provides care to patients with Medicare, you can help protect the health of your patients by encouraging them to take advantage of Medicare-covered preventive services, including smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services, that are appropriate for them.

### **For More Information**

CMS has developed several educational products related to Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services. They are all available, free of charge, from the **Medicare Learning Network®**:

- **The MLN Preventive Services Educational Products Web Page** ~ provides descriptions and ordering information for Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) educational products for health care professionals related to Medicare-covered preventive services, including smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services.  
[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35\\_PreventiveServices.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp)
- **The Guide to Medicare Preventive Services for Physicians, Providers, Suppliers, and Other Health Care Professionals** ~ provides coverage and coding information on Medicare-covered preventive services and screenings, including smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services. [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/mps\\_guide\\_web-061305.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/mps_guide_web-061305.pdf)
- **Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services** ~ this chart provides coverage and coding information on Medicare-covered preventive services, including smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services.  
[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MPS\\_QuickReferenceChart\\_1.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MPS_QuickReferenceChart_1.pdf)
- **The Medicare Preventive Services Series: Part 2 Web-Based-Training (WBT) course**~ this WBT includes lessons on coverage, coding, and billing for Medicare-covered preventive services, including smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services. To access the course, please visit the MLN home page at <http://www.cms.gov/mlngeninfo> on the internet. Scroll down to “Related Links Inside CMS” and click on “Web Based Training (WBT) Modules”.
- **The Smoking and Tobacco-Use Cessation Counseling Services brochure**~ this brochure provides information on coverage for Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling services.  
<http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/smoking.pdf>

Please visit the [Medicare Learning Network](http://www.cms.gov/mlngeninfo) for more information on these and other Medicare fee-for-service educational products.